

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)
WITHOUT FILING FEE AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION

01/10/02
JC879
GPO
PRO

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Atty. Dkt. 900-411

Date: January 10, 2002

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This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:

THIN-FILM SOLAR CELL AND ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

Newly executed Declaration, Copy of Declaration from prior application, Abstract

53 pages of specification and claims (including 22 numbered claims), and

5 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.

Record the attached assignment and return to the undersigned.

Attached is a Power of Attorney.

Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

| Application Number | Country | Day/Month/Year Filed |
|--------------------|---------|----------------------|
| 2001-4575 | Japan | 12/01/2001 |
| 2001-30028 | Japan | 06/02/2001 |
| 2001-394695 | Japan | 26/12/2001 |
| 2001-394713 | Japan | 26/12/2001 |

, respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

Certified copy(ies) filed on _____ in prior application no. _____ filed _____

Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. _____, filed _____, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application is a continuation/ division/ continuation-in-part of Application No. _____, filed _____, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency.

The prior application is assigned to _____.

It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.

Applicant claims "small entity" status. "Small entity" statement attached.

Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment prior to calculation of filing fee:

Also attached: Information Disclosure Statement; Non-Publication Request; Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission; Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application; Other:

1. Inventor: Hiroshi YAMAMOTO Japanese
(first) MI (last) (citizenship)
Residence: (city) Nara (state/country) Japan
Mailing Address: 192-1-429, Hajikami, Sinjou-cho, Kitakatsuragi-gun, Nara, Japan
(Zip Code) 639-2122

2. Inventor: Kenji WADA Japanese
(first) MI (last) (citizenship)
Residence: (city) Hyogo (state/country) Japan
Mailing Address: 21-2-101, Yamamoto Maruhashi 2-chome, Takarazuka-shi, Hyogo, Japan
(Zip Code) 665-0815

See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!

Address all future communications to NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C., 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor, Arlington, VA 22201.

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, Virginia 22201-4714

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

HWB:ecb

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By Atty: H. Warren Burnam, Jr., Reg. No. 29,366

Signature: 